

JULY 2019

In This Issue

- Election Results
- ✤ Tax Collector Retirement
- Street Fair Returns
- ✤ Daycare Field Trip
- Fireman's Parade
- ✤ 15104 Clean Up Day
- ✤ Salt Storage Grant
- ✤ DEP Fracking Meeting
- ✤ Sergeant Farewell
- Police Vehicle Upgrade
- **♦** Police Merger Study
- ✤ Spring Planting
- ✤ Boards Appointed
- ✤ Senator Satellite Office
- Rezoning Bell Avenue
- Street Restoration
- * Sixth Street Upgrades
- Battle Anniversary
- US Steel Investment
- In Woodland Hills
- ✤ Neighborhood Rules
- New Hawkins Park
- Link For Life
- Youth Football Sign-Ups
- ✤ Business Of The Month
- ✤ Directory & Events

North Braddock Network resident newsletter was launched in 2016. northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com NBFACEBOOK1@GMAIL.COM

North Braddock News

Resident News From North Braddock Network

Volume 3, Number 2

ELECTION RESULTS



The May 21, 2018 election had a number of local positions on the ballot. Michael Dobrinich won the democratic nomination for Ward 1 council. He faced no challengers in the race. John Vahosky won the democratic nomination for the Ward 2 council seat. He also faced no challengers in the race. Michael Breaston & Lisa Franklin won the democratic nominations for two seats available for Ward 3 council. Lena Dixon was a few votes short in the Ward 3 race. Ronna Currie won the democratic nomination for the Woodland Hills School Board in Region 3 (4 year term). Currie faced no challenger in the race. Jamie Glasser won the democratic & republican nomination for the Woodland Hills School Board. All the nominated candidates will be featured on the general election ballot on November 5, 2019.

TAX COLLECTOR RETIRES



Diane Tomasic officially retired as the tax collector on June 30, 2019. Mrs. Tomasic served as the elected tax collector since 1990. She helped many residents over the 29 years of public service. Diane was recognized and honored by borough council while receiving county & state the June council proclamations at meeting. We wish Diane Tomasic a happy retirement. Council appointed Kathleen Evanchec as Interim Tax Collector until the November 2019 election. Voters will elect a Tax Collector to take office in January 2020 and finish the four year term until December 2021.

STREET FAIR FUN

The North Braddock VFD Street Fair will return from July 24-27 at the Wolfe Avenue Fire Station. There will be the traditional food, games, prizes, & hayride. There will be a Fireman's Parade on Saturday, July 27 at 6:00 PM on Wolfe Avenue. There usually is a surprise water battle after the parade to bring back the old tradition at Wolfe & Sheridan. Come out with neighbors to see the fair, parade, and support the fire department.

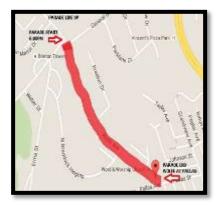


FIRE STATION FIELD TRIP

The Kiddyland Daycare located at the Bridge City Church recently took a field trip to the North Braddock VFD on Wolfe Avenue. Children met firefighters while getting to see the trucks & equipment up close. They even had the opportunity to try on the firefighting jackets & helmets. Contact the Fire Station for tours or community programming at 412.824.7791.



FIREMAN'S PARADE



The annual North Braddock Fireman's Parade will return on Saturday, July 27, 2019 at 6:00 PM. The parade travels on Wolfe Avenue from Locust to Pallas streets. The announcing stand is setup near Bridge City Church on Wolfe Avenue. Come out and see the many fire trucks and marching groups in the local parade. Be sure to stop by the street fair for food and games on Wolfe Avenue.

15104 CLEAN UP DAY



The annual clean-up day was held on April 27, 2019. The headquarters for supplies was located at the Ben Fairless Administration Center on Jones Avenue. Numerous volunteers came out to help clean up the community in North Braddock & Braddock. Numerous bags of litter were collected and dumpsters are filled every year to beautify the community. Thank you to everyone that helped to make a difference.

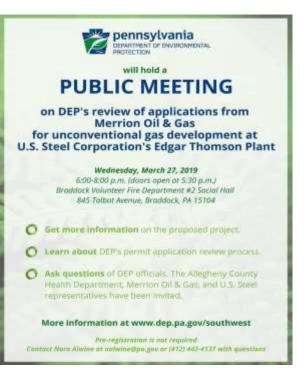
SALT STORAGE GRANT

The CDBG grant was approved for \$28,018 to construct a salt storage facility at the new site planned on Bell Avenue. This will provide a new efficient storage area since the current location has limited space at the municipal building.



DEP PUBLIC MEETING

The DEP held a public meeting on March 27, 2019 at the Braddock VFD social hall. Officials from the DEP, Merrion Oil & Gas, & U.S. Steel were in attendance to answer questions and talk about the project. Dozens of people in attendance opposed the fracking plan at the steel mill site. Hundreds showed up to the meeting to express their concerns with local groups leading the way such as North Braddock Residents For Our Future. Permit applications for the project are still under review by the DEP with numerous deficiencies already noted in the application process.



SERGEANT FAREWELL



Sergeant Brian Hodges recently accepted a new opportunity to move on from the North Braddock Police Department after serving the community for many years. He recently served as the supervisor on the afternoon shift. In June 2018, Sgt. Hodges faced an armed gunman at a vacant house and was shot in his ballistic vest. Thankfully he only suffered minor injuries and bravely returned to work the next day. We thank him for his service to the community and wish him luck in his future endeavors.

POLICE FLEET UPGRADE



At the April 2019 council meeting, council approved the purchase of a police package 2012 Dodge Charger from Classic Auto for \$14,500. The used vehicle was purchased in Florida to serve as a supervisor patrol vehicle for the NBPD.

POLICE MERGER STUDY

Council recently approved an agreement for the PADCED to conduct consulting services for a study to determine the feasibility of merging the police services in North Braddock, East Pittsburgh, Rankin, & Whitaker. It was mentioned that Braddock was also expressing recent interest to join the group in the study. The state study returns with information to help guide possible merger in the future. Each community involved is facing a struggle with part-time police, low pay, & turnover. Communities are looking to find a better solution to serve residents efficiently. Designated council members are assigned to have lead roles in any upcoming meetings regarding the merger possibility.



SPRING PLANTING



The North Braddock Garden Club held their annual spring planting day on Saturday, May 11. Volunteers met at the Brinton Avenue Park and beautified various sites including the borough welcome sign flower beds. The large flower bed inside the Brinton Park was prepped and wildflowers were planted. The group looks forward to watching their flowers flourish and grow in the community. New volunteers can always join the group by contacting their Facebook page.

BOARDS APPOINTED



At the February 2019 council meeting there were various appointments made to the volunteer boards. The planning board was filled by Nathan Van Patter (3 year term), Lisa Franklin (4 year term), & Lauren Beachom (4 year term). Kevin Salmon was appointed to the zoning hearing board for a (3 year term).

SATELLITE OFFICE

State Senator James Brewster announced satellite office hours in North Braddock. The senator's district offices have been instrumental in helping local residents apply for essential state programs and services including property tax relief, rent rebate programs, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly program (PACE), and many others. Stop by the North Braddock Municipal Building, 600 Anderson Street, and open every Monday, 8:00am - 3:00pm.



REZONING BELL AVENUE

There was a recent zoning change discussion from agricultural to light industrial in the 1400 block of Bell Avenue near the abandoned car wash property to accommodate a future business site for Gumpher Electrical Services and also a new storage facility for the North Braddock Street Department. The public hearing was held on the proposed change on May 28, 2019. There are plans for Gumpher Electrical Services to construct a new garage facility since their current location will be effected by the upcoming reconstruction of the Dookers Hollow Bridge. Meanwhile the borough will go through the eminent domain process to purchase the abandoned car wash facility.



PAVING RESTORATION



There have been recent street paving restorations after utility work for streets including Kirkpatrick Avenue & North Avenue. New utility lines are installed and the roadways are repaired with a new asphalt surface. Residents have suggested an update to the ordinance to require all utility companies to repair the roadway from curb to curb no matter the size of the street opening. The current ordinance does not require the curb to curb standard, in which costs the borough funding to complete full width paving project.

REVITALIZING SIXTH STREET

Numerous vacant properties were removed for neighborhood improvements along Sixth Street. The structurally deficient building at Sixth & Baldridge was finally removed. The property owner at the former Place to be Lounge razed the property next to the history center. The borough also had a collapsed garage removed near Sixth & Middle. There are hundreds of vacant structures on a demolition list with limited funding each year.



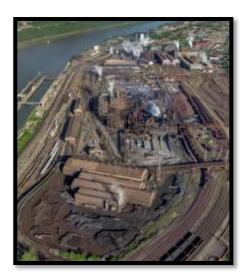
264TH BATTLE ANNIVERSARY

The Fort Ligonier board of directors officially took over control of Braddock's Battlefield History Center. The group has very optimistic plans to improve programming at the center. Anyone living in the 15104 area receives free admission to tour the facility. There will be a re-dedication event to commemorate the 264th Anniversary of the Battle of the Monongahela on July 9, 2019. Stop by the center and check out what our local history is all about.



US STEEL INVESTMENT

U.S. Steel recently announced it will invest \$1 billion to upgrade facilities at the Mon Valley Works. The investment includes a new endless casting and rolling facility at the Edgar Thomson Plant in our community. It also includes a cogeneration facility at the Clairton Plant. The investment supports the company's plan to remain in the community for decades to come with support from local leaders. The upgrades plan to improve pollution emissions from the facilities with state of the art technology operations.



IN WOODLAND HILLS

REORGANIZATION



The reorganization plan will create (3) Pre-K to 5th Grade buildings, (1) middle school for Grades 6-8, and (1) senior high for Grades 9-12. There will be no boundary lines, families will choose the school they prefer for their students during an open registration period. Students currently enrolled in a building will stay in the building if the family chooses or if the family does not complete paperwork during the registration period. The STEAM curriculum will the rolled out to all buildings Pre-K to 8th Grade. This realignment will occur next school year 2019-2020.

TAX INCREASE

The Woodland Hills School board approved a 2019-20 operating budget with a 3% tax increase from 25.35 mills to 26.1105 mills. The increase is planned to generate \$1.39 million for the \$101.78 million dollar budget next school year.

GENE KELLY AWARDS

Woodland Hills was nominated for (9) Gene Kelly Awards for "Mamma Mia". Winners were announced on May 25 at the Benedum Center with Woodland Hills winning (4) awards for Best Musical, Best Crew/Technical Execution, Best Scenic Design, & Best Lighting Design. That totals 228 nominations and 114 awards won in school history.

SCHOOL RETURNS

Woodland Hills School District will return to classes on Thursday, August 22, 2019. Enjoy the summer vacation.

NEIGHBORHOOD RULES

- Remember that there is a curfew prohibiting anyone under the age of 18 to loiter on public streets after 10:00 PM.
- When cleaning out properties with bulk waste, property owners must obtain a dumpster or haul the materials away.
- Vehicles on public streets and on private property must meet all state requirements to be legally operated or can be tagged & towed.
- There is an ordinance prohibiting all dual vehicles, tractors, trailers, home trailers, and campers on the streets. These vehicles are subject to be tagged & towed.
- Residents can dispose of electronic waste at the recycling dumpster at the borough building.

HAWKINS AVENUE PARK

The PADCED Keystone Grant was received for site development on Hawkins Avenue at the planned location for a new park. Urban Construction borough submitted a low bid for \$9,600 to conduct site preparation and the removal of trees on the vacant land. The Steven Breaston Foundation also plans to contribute to the project by purchasing land for the park that is currently occupied by a masonry storage yard at Hawkins & Fourth. Council members suggested having community input in future planning before the park is constructed.



LINK FOR LIFE GATHERING

The Link for Life community gathering was organized on June 21, 2019. The event was held at the corner of Jones & Baldridge. Community organizers included Lee Davis, Braddock Carnegie Library, Greater Valley Community Services, More Unity, and many others. Residents came together to occupy a space known for violence and suffering. Everyone came together with food, activities, and positive words. The corner was filled with unity and peace as a way to begin summer in the community.



YOUTH LEAGUE SIGN-UPS

The Swissvale-Braddock Wolverines are holding sign-ups for youth football & cheerleading for ages 5-14. Sign-up fees include \$80 for football & \$25 for cheerleaders. Training camp will begin on July 1, 2019. For more information, contact sbwolverines@gmail.com or check them out on Facebook or at www.sbwolverines.com.



BUSINESS OF THE MONTH GRAND VIEW GOLF CLUB

1000 Clubhouse Drive North Braddock, PA 15104 412.351.5390 pittsburghgolf.com



Grand View Golf Club is the business of the month. Summer time is the perfect opportunity to get out and enjoy the 18-hole public course with breath taking views of the region. The local course is the place to be every July 4th for entertainment, food, and watching fireworks across the area. Receive a free golf promo with every dinner purchase. The promo offers a free greens fee with a golf cart required for \$20. Visit The Restaurant at Grand View for quality dining. Book your special event at the restaurant or check out the weekly specials prepared for your dining experience. Enjoy drinks and cocktails at the clubhouse lounge. Find out why people are talking about the Grand View Golf Club as a local tourist destination.







NORTH BRADDOCK DIRECTORY 600 ANDERSON STREET NORTH BRADDOCK, PA 15104

Manager – Doug Marguriet (412) 271-1306 nbmgr@comcast.net

Mayor – Tom Whyel (412) 271-2262 tdwhyel@verizon.net

Acting Police Chief – Isaac Daniele (412) 351-4902 nbpolice@comcast.net

Fire Chief – Anthony Rydzak (412) 824-7791 arydzak@station207.com

Code Official – Dave Andrews (412) 271-0832 nbcodes@gmail.com

Street Dept. – Charles Nigro (412) 271-3647 streetdept@northbraddockborough.com

Tax Collector – Kathy Evanchec (412) 351-5500

Animal Control – Sable Kennel (412) 660-2350

Magistrate – Scott Schricker (412) 824-6201

Braddock Carnegie Library (412) 351-5357

US Post Office – Braddock Office (412) 271-4165

Woodland Hills School District (412) 731-1300

BIG's Sanitation Collection (724) 379-4331

Duquesne Light Company (412) 393-7000 (Emergency)

Peoples Gas Company 1-800-400-4271 (Emergency)

Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water (412) 243-6200

POLICE, FIRE, EMS 911

UPCOMING CALENDAR:

Council Monthly Meetings

600 Anderson Street, Municipal Building, Work Session, 6:30PM, Meeting, 7:00 PM July 16 August 20 September 17 October 15 November 19 December 17

NBVFD Street Fair & Fireman's Parade

July 24-27, 1318 Wolfe Avenue Fireman's Parade, July 27, 6:00 PM

NB Cares Monthly Meetings

600 Anderson Street, Municipal Building Last Monday of Each Month, 6:30 PM

NB Residents for Our Future Meetings

419 Library Street, Braddock Carnegie Library Meetings announced on Facebook

<u>NB Garden Club Meetings</u>

1318 Wolfe Avenue, Fire Station #1 Meetings announced on Facebook

Woodland Hills School District Meetings

531 Jones Avenue, Administration Building, 7:00 PMJuly 17, Legislative MeetingAugust 14, Agenda MeetingAugust 21, Legislative Meeting

Email suggestions for future articles and let us know if you would like to contribute to the publication at **nbfacebook1@gmail.com**.

Check out newsletter editions and subscribe here: https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/newsletter.html

